

To the March Urban District Council.

Copy

Feb 9<sup>th</sup>. 1897.

Annual Report

Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to furnish you with a report of the births, deaths and sickness together with a record of the steps taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, and removal of nuisances for the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1896.

Births

The Births registered numbered 186: 89 males, 97 females, giving a birth rate of 27 per thousand, against 31 the previous year.

Deaths

The Deaths registered numbered 103, giving a death rate of 14.6 per thousand against 17 the previous year.

Ages at

Death

Ages at death - 23 occurred to infants under 1 year - 10 one year and under five - 2 five years and under fifteen - 5 fifteen years and under twenty-five - 21 twenty-five years and under sixty-five - 42 sixty-five years and upwards, of the latter 10 lived to eighty years, and upwards and 2 to 95 years.

Causes of death

Causes of death - 23 occurred to infants from diseases incidental to infantile life (of this number 9 were prematurely born and only lived a few hours) 12 from Heart Disease, 11 from Bronchitis and Pneumonia - 4 from Cancer, 6 from Consumption, 4 from diseases of liver, 2 from whooping cough, 1 from Dysentery, 1 from Diphtheria, 1 from Enteric Fever, 1 to injuries by being run over, the remainder to various diseases and old age.

Distribution of deaths & sickness

Distribution of Deaths and Sickness will be best dealt with by dividing the district as heretofore into three parts, 1<sup>st</sup> the Southern district, that is that portion South of the river Tyne. In this 45 deaths occurred







against 52 the previous years, 2<sup>nd</sup> or Middle district that is North of the river here, and South of the G<sup>t</sup> Eastern Railway. in this 54 deaths occurred against 59 the previous year, 3<sup>rd</sup> or Northern district that part North of the G<sup>t</sup> Eastern Railway, including Hornwoodside. In this 4 deaths occurred against 9 the previous year.

Notification Act Diseases Notification Act, 32 cases of Scarlet Fever, were reported, 31 cases of Erysipelas, 8 of Diphtheria, 1 case of Membranous Croup - 1 Enteric Fever; total 43 cases against 53 the previous year.

Distribution of infectious diseases Distribution of infectious diseases, Southern District 6 cases of Scarlet Fever, 12 of Erysipelas and 5 of Diphtheria. Middle district, 24 cases of Scarlet Fever 14 of Erysipelas, 3 of Diphtheria and 1 of Membranous Croup. Northern district, 2 cases of Scarlet Fever, 5 of Erysipelas and 1 of Enteric Fever.

Sickness The general state of health in the district for the year was good, though a greater number of cases from Zymotic diseases were reported, they were with one or two exceptions of a mild character. Scarlet Fever was more or less prevalent throughout the year and cases of Erysipelas were of frequent occurrence due to cold and exposure. Cases of Cancer increased from 2 to 4, but diseases of the respiratory organs - (Bronchitis and Pneumonia) were fewer than in any previous year. Cases of Heart disease and Consumption were about the same, whilst the mortality amongst infants decreased from 36 cases to 23. This I hope is in some measure due to the precaution I advised in my report last year. Amongst the Zymotic diseases 2 cases of Whooping-Cough (complicated with Pneumonia) 1 of Diphtheria 1 of Typhoid and Dysentery and one of Enteric Fever are all that terminated fatally; there was no death from Scarlet





Fever, Erysipelas, Membranous Croup, Rheumatic  
Fever, Small Pox or any other Zymotic disease  
Water supply. I am glad to be able to note that the supply of  
Filters and Mearns Water is now extended to all parts of the  
scavenging town and its general use adopted. There can be no  
doubt the public health has much improved since  
its introduction. In parts where this cannot be obtained  
greater attention has been paid to the collection  
and storage of water and the use of improved Filters.  
I note with satisfaction that your Council are  
making arrangements for the collection and removal  
of refuse at regular intervals as hitherto the  
accumulation of all kinds of filth in the public  
ashpits has been a nuisance detrimental to health.

I am Gentlemen

Yours faithfully

Alfred Lydwater

Ind. Officer of Health



